

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Digital Broadcast Copy Protection)	MB Docket No. 02-230
)	

To: The Commission

**Request For Extension of Time Until March 17, 2003
In Which to File Reply Comments**

The American Library Association, the American Association of Law Libraries, the Association of Research Libraries, the Medical Library Association, and the Special Library Association (collectively “Libraries”) hereby request a sixty (60) day extension of time in which to file reply comments to the FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding Digital Broadcast Copy Protection (MB Docket No. 02-230) Interested parties, including the Libraries, filed comments on December 6, 2002. Under the schedule established in by the Commission in the NPRM reply comments are due to be filed January 17, 2003. If this extension is granted, reply comments will be due to be filed on March 17, 2003

For the reasons set forth below, the Libraries respectfully request that this request be granted.

This NPRM raises important issues that may affect the ability of the public to access and use information distributed and/or maintained in a digital format. The importance and significance of this rule making is, in part, reflected by the more than 6,500 comments that have been filed. There are literally thousands of pages that need to be reviewed carefully and the current schedule does not allow adequate time for that review, much less the preparation of thoughtful reply comments. Indeed, a cursory review of a portion of the filed comments indicate numerous policy and public issues of interest to the Libraries as well as many other commenters which warrant detailed and thoughtful replies. Thus, due to the volume of the filed comments to be reviewed and the complex and important issues raised by the Broadcast Flag rule making, the Libraries believe that an extension of time to and including March 17, 2003 is necessary and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

The American Library Association
The American Association of Law Libraries
The Association of Research Libraries
The Medical Libraries Association
The Special Libraries Association

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